SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: His amended supplementary I will answer as follows;

A contre for advanced coffee technology has been mooted to carry out market-oriented applied research on coffee in the following fields:

Post-harvest technology; development of advanced technology in coffee, roasting grinding and packaging; coffee brewing technology; formulation of value-added coffee products and speciality coffees.

SHIU V. NARAYANASAMY: He has not answered the basic question about production and export.

AIR. CHAIRMAN; He has answered. He has said what the Institute will do. He has said that the Institute will loo^ into the jobs like roasting, packaging and all that.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY; Production is the basic question. The Minister has to answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN; The Minister has to answer many things but here he is to answer the supplementary only.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: It is relevant, About production and export the Minister should say without even going through the records.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Are you putting another supplementary? Shri Ramachandran.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will this coffee technology institute which you have proposed involve promotion of production of coffee or mere promotion of marketing?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, the object of this Institute is to suggest ways, how production can be improved and now efficient production can be made possible. It will also be concerned with the marketing, processing and all other ramifications of coffee so that our coffee production can prosper.

Seizure of Gold Biscuits

*104. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister cf FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether officials of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized gold biscuits worth Rs. 68 crores from the toilet of an aircraft of Singapore Airlines in New Delhi on the 7th December, 1990;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and whether any arrests have been made in this connection; and

(c) what action is contemplated against the persons apprehended?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence effected a seizure of 20 foreign marked gold slabs each weighing one kilogram approximately, collectively valued at Rs. 69 lakhs approximately (hot Rs. 68 crores) from behind the Oxygen Mask Chamber of the Toilet No. 'H of Singapore Airlines flight No. SQ— 02-f which had arrived at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi on 7th December, 1990. Seven persons have been arrested and investigations are in progress. Action as provided under the law will be taken against them.

SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: What is the total quantity of the gold seized in different airports of the country in the years 1989 and 1990 and what are the details ?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The quantity in 1989 was 8215 kgs. of gold. The quantity in 1990 was 5, 475 kilograms of gold.

SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Sir, my second supplementary would be, what is the allocation of the gold to the jewellery makers in this year?

. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, as the Commerce Minister has just now explained, we have a scheme under which the State Bank of India allocates confiscated gold to the jewellery manufacturers and exporters. What exactly that figure is something which the Commerce Minister will be able to give; I don't have that figure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Satya Bahin... *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI S. s. AHLUWALIA: They are playing table tennis!

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : सभापति महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि बड़े पैमाने पर सोने के बिस्कुटों की जो तस्करी हो रही है इलैक्ट्रानिक्स आइटम्स के माध्यम से, उसकी जानकारी सरकार को है और यदि है तो इसकी रोकथाम करने के लिये सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : सभापति महोदय, तरह तरह के तरीके सोने की तस्करी के लिए अपनाये जाते हैं उन सबकी जानकारी सरकार को है और उसमें हम .....

श्री सभापति : सत्या बहिन आपको जो बतायें वह भी आप जानकारी ले लें...

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : मैंने अभी बताया कि उनको रिवार्ड भी देंगे जो बतायेंगे ...

श्री सभापति : वह कह रहे हैं रिवार्ड भी देंगे !

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि आप उसको रोकने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं ?

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : हमें हर तरह की जानकारी है कि कैसे-कैसे तरीके स्मगलर्स अपनाते हैं सोने की तस्करी के लिये, उन सबकी जानकारी मिलती रहती है । इंटेलिजेंस भी काम करती है और ये जितने लोग पकड़े गए हैं वह इसी बात का द्योतक है कि उसके बारे में पहले से हमें जानकारी मिल जाती है, तब हम छापा मारकर उनको पकड़ पाते हैं । उसमें तरह तरह के तरीके अपनाये जाते हैं । इलेक्ट्रानिक गुड्स में छिपाकर लाते हैं, टायलेट के अंदर सोना छिपा होता है, उन सब तरीकों के बारे में एडवांस जानकारी के आधार पर हम छापा मारकर उनको पकड़ते हैं ।

SHRI VITRALBHAI M. PATEL: ' Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Finance Minister may be aware that one-fourth of the gold is seized by the Customs and three-fourths, without seizure, is smuggled into the country. The informers are not being paid the 10 per cent reward which they have a right to get. in a number of cases, the police have detected the gold but the police are not entitled to get the 10 per cent reward. If you pay 10 per cent to the police, they can seize more gold than the Customs Department does. That is No. 1. No. 2 is, to reduce the smuggling of gold, will you allow NRIs. to import gold on their own? They don't ask for foreign exchange. The NRIs themselves will bring the gold if you allow them, and it will help in reducing the smuggling into this country.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, as far as the first part of the question is concerned, we have a reward scheme as I said, and wherever the information leads to confiscation of gold, the people who have given the information are rewarded.

MR. CHAIRMAN; He says that . police officers should be given...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA; I am coming to that. So, if there is any specific case... (In fact, I do receive a number of letters also from honourable Members of Parliament where they bring it to my notice that somebody has not received the reward, and I am looking into every specific case. So, if the honourable Member has

any specific case mind, he can bring it to my notice and I can look into it.

MR. CHAIRMAN; He says, give rewards to the police officers like to the customs officers.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The other thing is that I am unable to share his perception that the police will be morp effective than the customs officials in trying to stop the smuggling of gold. This is a responsibility which has been assigned to the customs nfficials, and I can even quote the figures, for instance, to prove the point that they are doing a good job of it. As far as the other part of the question is concerned, namely, allowing NRIs to bring gold, it has certain implications. I believe, my predecessor had mentioned it in Parliament that such a scheme should be looked at. We are prepared to look at it, but there are certain implications and all those implications will have to be taken into account.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Chaturanan Mishra.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : सभापति महोदय, सोने की इतने बड़े पैमाने पर जो स्मगलिंग हो रही है उसका मुख्य कारण यह है कि अपने देश में जो सोने का दाम है और विदेश में जो सोने का दाम है उन दोनों में बहुत बड़ा अंतर है । दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे यहां जिनके पास काला धन है वह उससे सोना खरीद लेते हैं । इसके लिये जरूरी है कि सिर्फ कस्टम अफिशियल्स या पुलिस ही इस काम को न करे बल्कि कुछ नीतिगत ऐसे कदम उठाने चाहिये जिससे दोनों के दामों में ज्यादा फर्क न हो । जो लोग सोना खरीदना चाहते हैं उनको देश के अन्दर ही दूसरी कोई ऐसी सुविधा मिले जिससे वह उस चीज को ले सकें । मैं चाहूंगा कि वित्त मंत्री महोदय से कि पालिसी मैटर के बारे में आप क्या सोच रहे हैं ? क्या करेंगे इसको रोकने के लिये यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं ?

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : ऐसा है कि माननीय सदस्य का यह कहना सही है कि स्मलिंग चाहे किसी भी वस्तु की हो उसका मुख्य कारण यह है कि यहां के दामों में और बाहर के दामों में फर्क है । 1990 में सोने के दाम में लगभग 50 परसेंट का फर्क था । चांदी के दाम में 180 परसेंट का फर्क था और इसीलिये चांदी की स्मगलिंग बहुत हुई । बहुत चांदी पकड़ी भी गई ? यह स्थिति इसलिये पैदा होती है कि डिमांड भी ज्यादा है और प्राइस भी ज्यादा है । इसको मीट करने की नीतिगत चर्चा जो माननीय सदस्य ने की उसका एक ही तरीका हो सकता है कि उस डिमांड को, उस दाम को कहीं रिलेट करें । उसके आसपास दाम ले जाएं जिस से बाहर से सामान लाना उसके लिए मुनाफे का न हो । जैसा आपने कहा अश्वासन देने की बात तो हम आश्वासन देने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं कि सरकार ऐसा कदम उठा लेगी जिससे पूरी सोने और चांदी की तस्करी खत्म हो जायेगी लेकिन तस्करी को रोकने और मार्किट रिलेट करने में इंटरनेशनल मार्किट में कई इम्पलीकेशन्स हो सकते हैं के इसलिये उसके लिये सही ढंग से सोचकर निर्णय लेना होगा ।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : वित्त मंत्री कह रहे हैं कि सोच कर करेंगे तो क्या कोई टाइम लिमिट है सोचने की या जैसा पहले सोच जा रहा है वैसे ही सोचेंगे ? क्योंकि समय कम है इसलिये कह रहा हूं ।

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : समय कम है इसीलिये जल्दी सोचेंगे ।

SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Sir, most of the smuggling is done from Singapore. A lot of confiscation is being done at the Madras Airport. Every day hundreds of people are coming from Singapore. Will the Government consider allowing Indian—origin people coming from foreign countries, especially Malaysia and Singapore, to bring gold ornaments for personal use?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, this question is also related to the earlier questions which I have answered. The whole question of permitting people of Indian origin, non-resident Indians, Indians returning from a visit abroad to bring certain quanti- ! ties of gold in whatever form, in the form of jewellery or in the form of bars, all these questions will have to be considered. I am saying this repeatedly because Chaturananji also raised this question. The point is that we should not take any steps which will affect our remittances. That is another angle which we h-ive to keep in mind, that instead of getting remit-tances from them in foreign exchange, j suppose we take steps which will in- j crease the import of gold but will af- j feet my remittances, then, it does not gain us anything. So, that is why, I am saying that all these are issues which will have to be considered very very carefully. And I have said that I would look into them and come back to Parliament with any scheme that we might have very very soon.

. Export of F. C. V. Tobacco to China

•105. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have in itiated any efforts to revive export of ' F. C. V. tobacco to China; and

(b) if so, what are the details there of?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY); (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports of tobacco to China have been permitted on D. A. (Docu ments against Acceptance) terms with a time stipulation of 30 days, as a special case. The Tobacco Board is in regular touch with the authorities of the Chinese National Import and Export Corporation (CNTIEC) requesting them for placement of export orders. Indian tobacco exporters are advised by the Tobacco Board to maintain regular contact with the CNTIEC for securing export orders. The Chinese authorities are also requested to increase imports of Indian tobacco during the bilateral trade talks.

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI; Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the exports of tobacco to China have been permitted on documents against acceptance. Sir, having been Governor of Andhra Pradesh, you know the importance of F. C. V. tobacco to the Guntur and the Prakasam Distrtcs of Andhra Pradesh. To almost all countries the F. C. V. tobacco is exported on the basis of documents on presentation. In that case why is it that he has shifted and changed it from documents on presentation to documents against acceptance in the case of China?

SHRI SUBRAMANTAN SWAMY: The main reason is that the production of tobacco in China has increased in a very large measure. In fact in the decade it has doubled. Therefore, the Chinese interest today is really for blending of tobacco. For that they are importing very small quantities from abroad particularly from Brazil, Zimbabwe and India. In that context, since there are no large quantities involved, we feel this is the best procedure to orgnaise the exports.

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAII. The Minister is not giving a straight reply. My specific question is; why has the system been changed from documents on presentation to documents against acceptance. The system of documents on presentation I is accepted by almost all importing countries of tobacco as far as the F. C. V. fo-bacco is concerned. He is not answering that question. In that context I would like to ask the hon. Minister that after 20 years the Chinese entered the Indian market about a decade back to import tobacco on a large Scale importing more than